



The City of



Economic Development

MEETING NOTES

San Diego Promise Zone

Jobs + Education Meeting Notes

Wednesday, July 27th | 2:30 – 4:00 PM

Via Zoom (Meeting ID: 160 198 7510)

Working Group Goal: To create jobs and improve educational opportunities in the Promise Zone.

In Attendance

City of San Diego-Economic Development, Access Inc., California Coast Credit Union, City of San Diego—CD4, City of San Diego—CD8, City of San Diego-Human Resources, City of San Diego-Information Technology, City of San Diego- Office of Child and Youth Success, Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, Harmonium, Junior Achievement of San Diego, Just In Time For Foster Youth, Outside the Lens, San Diego College of Continuing Education, San Diego County Office of Education, San Diego Housing Commission, San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation, San Diego Workforce Partnership, SBCS (formerly South Bay Community Services), Second Chance, SoCal Pre Apprenticeship Program, The LEAGUE of Amazing Programmers, Urban Collaborative Project.

Meeting Notes

Welcome, Introductions, and Culture Share

- Co-Chairs greeted partners and reviewed the agenda.
- Staff introduced the newest members of the Promise Zone team: Will Smith, the new Communications Associate AmeriCorps Vista and Roosevelt Williams III, the new Civic Engagement and Grant Specialist, who will be working with the Promise Zone on a half-time basis.
- Staff introduced Ernesto Rivera, Work Based Learning Project Specialist at the San Diego County Office of Education and the newest Co-Chair of the Jobs + Education Working Group. Ernesto has been a major part of the Promise Zone initiative for many years. Most recently, Ernesto supported the success of the Promise Zone Jobs + Resource Fair and played a vital role in making the event possible.

Partner Announcements

- The Economic Development Department hosted a Business Walk on July 28th from 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM along the Imperial Avenue corridor (from 61st to 69th, in recognition of the newly established Black Arts and Culture District).

Click the following links to stay connected to the San Diego Promise Zone

[Newsletter](#) | [Website](#) | [New Website](#) | [Email](#) | (619) 236-6700 | 1200 Third Ave, 14th Floor, San Diego, CA 92101

- The [Southeast Science and Art Expo](#) is happening on August 13th from 10:00am – 2:00pm at the Malcolm X Library and will provide a fun immersive experience in science and art for people of all ages for free.
- The San Diego College of Continuing Education Campuses are hosting Summer Exploration Days for prospective students to explore SDCCE's programs, and student support services and receive onsite application and registration help. [Learn more here.](#)
 - Fall Courses are open for enrollment and offer a variety of free options for adult learners in everything from High School Completion, ESL, Career Tech Classes, and more! [Learn more here.](#)
- Giving Hands is cohosting a resource fair in partnership with Access Inc., Pillars of the Community, and a host of other community partners. The resource fair will take place at the Mountain View Recreation Center on August 20th and will feature a live DJ and free food. [Learn more here.](#)

The Employ + Empower Youth Workforce Program

Leslie McNabb, City of San Diego— Department of Human Resources

- The Employ + Empower Program will help build the City's workforce by offering 1000 internship positions within City Departments over the course of two years. As of the date of the presentation, the City has received 175 qualified applicants.
- The City's goal is to have 75% of the youth employed or enrolled in an academic or job training program by the completion of the program.
- The program prioritizes youth that lives or go to school within a community of concern, as identified within the 2015 San Diego Climate Action Plan. Communities of Concern were established using environmental, socioeconomic, and health-related factors as a way to determine where to allocate resources.
- Immigration status is not a part of the eligibility criteria for the program, however, if the applicant meets at least two of the criteria, the applicant is eligible for the program regardless of immigration status.
- Two types of positions are available through this program: student interns who serve for 6 months and management interns who serve in their final year of college.
- The grant funds cover the wages for the interns as well as supportive services, such as free transit passes, gift cards for professional clothing, computers, hotspots, cellphones, professional memberships or certifications, LinkedIn Learning career pathways, and professional development. Partners have been established for the employer assistance program, which will include financial education.
- The Human Resources Department is currently in the process of developing trauma-based training for intern supervisors. The Office of Race and Equity will be spearheading bias training.
- Partners noted that CBOs have extensive experience in trauma and culturally informed practices and that the curriculum will need to be developmentally appropriate for the targeted population.
- Outreach is being conducted through the Community College Districts. The Human Resources Department is willing to conduct in-person outreach to answer questions and assist youth with completing the application process. The Human Resources

Department is currently working on creating a tool for partners to track the youth who have been enrolled in the program.

- Partners noted that it will be important to customize presentations and recruitment efforts to each particular youth population.
- Employ + Empower current internship listings can be viewed [here](#).

SD Access 4 All Budget Update

Kelsey Baird, Amina Hyat, City of San Diego—Information Technology

- [SD Access 4 All](#) is a program housed within the Department of Information Technology and has created and mapped out over 350 access points for free public Wi-Fi throughout the City. Over the past few months, the amount of use at these Wi-Fi access points has quadrupled. Currently, the money allocated to this program keeps the lights on but does not allow for program expansion.
- Digital Literacy Services and the Digital Navigator Program will see expansion. Because of the City's Employ + Empower Program, many new Digital Navigators are being recruited. Digital Navigators are hired based on the firsthand experience of digital redlining and structural barriers.
- Promise Zone Partners can host one or more digital navigators at their site. If interested, reach out to kbaird@sandiego.gov.
- San Diego Futures Foundation hosts a Mobile Digital Literacy program that serves two separate locations a day. It is currently looking at expanding this program or another type of programming, such as youth coding. This is a chance for Promise Zone Partners to develop the scope for what that program could look like.
- The Department of IT is currently pursuing the LATA Grant to fund the development of a Broadband Master Plan, which will map out the communities that are lacking fiber. This map is critical because it makes the effort to improve digital infrastructure more data driven. Once funding is allocated, the Department of IT will begin to look at long term solutions for digital infrastructure. It is meeting with the Promise Zone team to develop a community engagement plan.
- The Department of IT has partnered with SANDAG to conduct outreach for The Get Connected Campaign, a federal affordable connectivity program subsidizing home internet.

Wrap Up and Adjourn

- Co-Chairs thanked Partners for attending the working group meeting and gave a reminder that feedback can be submitted through the digital comment box.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, August 24th | 2:30 – 4:00 PM

Via Zoom (Meeting ID: 160 198 7510)